



Promoting and Protecting the Health of Iowans

# A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE: At-a-Glance

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## DIVISION QUICK FACTS

**SPF SIG Prevention Campaign:** IDPH will initiate a health promotion campaign in December focusing on reducing underage alcohol use and adult binge drinking. The campaign is funded through the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) to address these project's identified priority issues. Health promotion messaging will focus on middle school youth — since experimentation with alcohol often starts with this age group — and on college-age adults — the Iowa population with the highest binge drinking rates.

ZLR Ignition, on behalf of IDPH, conducted focus groups in June to discuss both SPF SIG priority issues in order to develop effective communications to address these problems. Several approaches were developed and then shared with a creative testing group and with seven SPF SIG-funded prevention agencies for their feedback. The ideas that were most supported by all of the groups were reviewed and approved by IDPH and are now in production. A variety of media materials will be available for use by SPF SIG counties. For more information, contact Julie Hibben at [julie.hibben@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:julie.hibben@idph.iowa.gov).

**NIAAA Teen Alcohol Risk Screening Guide:** The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) has released a guide for healthcare professionals to help identify children and teenagers, ages 9-18, who are at risk for alcohol-related problems, and to provide brief counseling and referral to treatment resources when indicated.

The evidence-based guide, *Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention for Youth: A Practitioner's Guide*, includes a two-question risk assessment as well as links to resources for motivational interviewing. NIAAA developed the guide and supporting pocket guide in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics. To download or order the free guide, go to: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Publications/EducationTrainingMaterials/YouthGuide>.

**OWI Drinking Drivers Courses — Under age 18:** All OWI offenders must take a drinking drivers course approved by the Iowa Department of Education (DE) as one of the requirements for getting their drivers license back. While approved courses are available through both community colleges and licensed substance abuse programs, offenders under age 18 must take the course from a licensed substance abuse program.

Discussions by the DE's OWI Education Advisory Committee suggest that some under age 18 offenders have requested, or in some cases taken, their course from a community college, reportedly because they were unable to find a licensed substance abuse program course that was near them or that fit their schedule. Because Iowa law (**Sections 321J.2 and 321J.17**) does not allow for an alternative to a licensed program class for OWI offenders under age 18, such individuals should be directed to take the required drinking drivers course from a licensed substance abuse program that has been approved to provide the course. Questions or requests for assistance in finding an approved course may be directed to Elizabeth Schaller/IDPH at 515-281-4643 or to Janine Johnson/DE at 515-281-5251.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**2011 Prevention Conference** November 2. Des Moines - Holiday Inn Airport. For more information, go to [www.trainingresources.org](http://www.trainingresources.org).

**Addiction...A Family Affair** November 4. Sioux City - Peter Waitt Education Center. For more information, contact Christy Stinger at [CStinger@jacksonrecovery.com](mailto:CStinger@jacksonrecovery.com).

**Treating Trauma and Substance Related Disorders** November 10. Marshalltown - Regency Best Western. For more information, go to [www.satuci.com](http://www.satuci.com).

**Personality Disorders and Substance Related Disorders** November 10. Marshalltown - Regency Best Western. For more information, go to [www.satuci.com](http://www.satuci.com).

**Motivational Interviewing: Advanced Concepts and Techniques** November 11. Sioux City. For information, contact Christy Stinger at [CStinger@jacksonrecovery.com](mailto:CStinger@jacksonrecovery.com).

**Cultivating Partnerships for County Growth through Strategic Prevention Framework: Implementation and Evaluation** November 8, 10, 14, and 17. For more information, go to [www.trainingresources.org](http://www.trainingresources.org).

**National HIV/AIDS Strategy** November 17. Des Moines. For information, contact Randy Mayer at 515-242-5150.

**Justice in Our Schools** November 29, 30, and December 1. Carroll. For more information, contact Nancy Wells at 515-401-9897.

For more information about the Division of Behavioral Health, visit [www.idph.state.ia.us/bh](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/bh)

For questions related to "A Matter of Substance," contact the editors:

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